

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

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MATTHEW K. BECK,

Plaintiff,

vs.

COMMISSIONER SOCIAL SECURITY,

Defendant.

2:15-cv-00039-APG-VCF

**ORDER**

[Motion/Application for Leave to Proceed *in forma pauperis* (#1)]

Before the court are plaintiff Matthew K. Beck's Motion/Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* (#1) and Complaint (#1-1).

**I. In Forma Pauperis Application**

Plaintiff Matthew K. Beck asserts in his application to proceed in forma pauperis that he is currently unemployed and has no take home wages. *Id.* He receives \$178.00 a month in food stamps. *Id.* Accordingly, plaintiff's request to proceed *in forma pauperis* is granted pursuant to § 1915(a).

**II. Screening the Complaint**

Upon granting a request to proceed *in forma pauperis*, a court must additionally screen a complaint pursuant to § 1915(e). Specifically, federal courts are given the authority to dismiss a case if the action is legally "frivolous or malicious," fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted, or seeks monetary relief from a defendant who is immune from such relief. § 1915(e)(2). "To survive a motion to dismiss, a complaint must contain sufficient factual matter, accepted as true, to state a claim to relief that is plausible on its face." *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 129 S.Ct. 1937, 1949 (2009) (internal quotations and citation omitted).

1 In considering whether the plaintiff has stated a claim upon which relief can be granted, all material  
2 allegations in the complaint are accepted as true and are to be construed in the light most favorable to the  
3 plaintiff. *Russell v. Landrieu*, 621 F.2d 1037, 1039 (9th Cir. 1980). When a court dismisses a complaint  
4 under § 1915(e), the plaintiff should be given leave to amend the complaint with directions as to curing  
5 its deficiencies, unless it is clear from the face of the complaint that the deficiencies could not be cured by  
6 amendment. See *Cato v. United States*, 70 F.3d 1103, 1106 (9th Cir. 1995) (citation omitted).

7 A. Plaintiff's Complaint

8 Plaintiff's complaint arises from an unfavorable decision by the Commissioner of Social Security  
9 Administration (hereinafter "Commissioner"). (#1-1). Plaintiff asserts that he is "disabled as that term is  
10 defined in the Social Security Act," and that he filed concurrent applications for disability insurance  
11 benefits and supplemental security income alleging the same. *Id.* The Commissioner denied the  
12 applications both upon initial review and reconsideration. *Id.* Plaintiff participated in a hearing before  
13 the ALJ, and the ALJ issued a decision also denying plaintiff's claim for benefits. *Id.* The Appeals  
14 Counsel denied plaintiff's request for a review of the ALJ's decision, making the Commissioner's decision  
15 final. *Id.* Plaintiff has appealed the decision of the Commissioner to this court, and "requests that this  
16 court reverse that decision, or in the alternative,...remand this matter for a new hearing..." *Id.*

17 Plaintiff may appeal to this court the Commissioner's denial of his application for either Disability  
18 Insurance Benefits or Supplemental Security Income under Titles II and XVI of the Social Security Act,  
19 respectively. See 42 U.S.C. §§ 401-433, 1381-82c. This court has jurisdiction over the matter. *Id.*  
20 Construing plaintiff's allegations in light most favorable to plaintiff, the court finds that plaintiff has  
21 asserted a claim upon which relief can be granted. See *Russell*, 621 F.2d at 1039.

22 Accordingly, and for good cause shown,

23 IT IS ORDERED that plaintiff's Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* (#1) is GRANTED.  
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1 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the plaintiff is permitted to maintain the action to conclusion  
2 without the necessity of prepayment of any additional fees, costs, or security. This order granting *in forma*  
3 *pauperis* status does not extend to the issuance of subpoenas at government expense.

4 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of the Court file the Complaint (#1-1) and serve the  
5 Commissioner of the Social Security Administration by sending a copy of the summons and Complaint  
6 (#1-1) by certified mail to: (1) the Attorney General of the United States, Department of Justice, 950  
7 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Room 4400, Washington, D.C. 20530; and (2) Office of the Regional Chief  
8 Counsel, Region IX, Social Security Administration, 160 Spear St., Suite 899, San Francisco, CA 94105-  
9 1545.

10 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of Court issue summons to the United States Attorney  
11 for the District of Nevada and deliver the summons and Complaint (#1-1) to the U.S. Marshal for service.

12 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that from this point forward, plaintiff must serve upon defendant, or  
13 his attorney if he has retained one, a copy of every pleading, motion, or other document submitted for  
14 consideration by the court. Plaintiff must include with the original paper submitted for filing a certificate  
15 stating the date that a true and correct copy of the document was mailed to the defendants or their counsel.  
16 The court may disregard any paper received by a district judge, magistrate judge, or the Clerk which fails  
17 to include a certificate of service.

18 DATED this 12th day of January, 2015.

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21 CAM FERENBACH  
22 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE  
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